



Alameda County Sheriff's Office
Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff / Coroner
Coroner's Bureau, 2901 Peralta Oaks Ct, Oakland, CA 94605
(510) 382-3000 / (510) 382-3033 (fax)

Coroner Investigator's Report

CALL INFO	NAME OF DECEASED (LAST, FIRST MIDDLE) CORNEJO, John Anthony				TENTATIVE ID <input type="checkbox"/>	UNIDENTIFIED <input type="checkbox"/>	CASE NUMBER 2015-01063	
	REPORTED BY Dr. V. Bleecher		REPORTED BY PHONE NO. (510) 437-4800		REPORTING AGENCY Alameda Health System - Highland Hospit		REFERENCE NUMBER 15-005355	
	INVESTIGATOR Charles Frazier		CALL DATE AND TIME 3/30/2015 8:44		CASE TYPE Removal Case			
DECEDENT	DATE AND TIME OF DEATH 3/30/2015 7:09		DATE OF BIRTH 1/19/1995	AGE 20 Years	GENDER Male	RACE Hispanic	MARITAL STATUS Never Married	VET? <input type="checkbox"/>
	HGT 72	WGT 213	EYE COLOR Brown	HAIR COLOR Black	OCCUPATION Construction Worker		EMPLOYER	
	Preliminary Summary							
DEATH	LOCATION OF DEATH Alameda Health System - Highland Hospital						LOD TYPE Hospital - IP	
	ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP) 1411 E. 31 St Street Oakland CA 94602						COUNTY	
	Manner Accident			Death Certificate Signed By: K. Easling #1917, Deputy Coroner				
	Cause A Acute Methamphetamine Intoxication						Interval	Hours
	Cause B						Interval	
	Cause C						Interval	
	Cause D						Interval	
Other Significant Conditions		None						
NOTIFICATION	LEGAL NEXT OF KIN [REDACTED]			RELATIONSHIP [REDACTED]		TELEPHONE NO. [REDACTED]		
	NOTIFIED BY Charles Frazier			METHOD Coroner/telephone		DATE AND TIME 3/31/2015 15:00		
	IDENTIFICATION METHOD Personal Identification			DATE AND TIME 3/30/2015 11:40				
INCIDENT	LOCATION OF INCIDENT Glen Dyer Jail						AT WORK <input type="checkbox"/>	
	ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)						COUNTY	
	INVESTIGATING AGENCY Alameda County Sheriff's Office-ETS						OFFICER R. Lopez	
	INV AGENCY PHONE NUMBER							
DISP	FUNERAL HOME Pacific Interment - Emeryville				BODY RELEASED TO FUNERAL HOME ON 4/2/2015 15:50			
	Full Autopsy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partial Autopsy <input type="checkbox"/> Inspection <input type="checkbox"/> Record Review <input type="checkbox"/> Inspection w/Specimen <input type="checkbox"/>				EXAM BY Paul W. Herrmann			

Date Printed Wednesday, July 01, 2015



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Alameda County Sheriff's Office
Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff / Coroner
Coroner's Bureau, 480 4th Street, Oakland, CA
94607-3829
(510) 268-7300 / (510) 268-7333 (fax)

Investigator Narrative

Decedent: CORNEJO, John Anthony
Case Number: 2015-01063
Investigator: Charles Frazier

First Call Information:

On Monday, March 30, 2015, about 0844 hours, Doctor V. Bleecher, from the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the Alameda Health System-Highland Hospital, called to report the death of a 22-year-old male named [REDACTED]. The male decedent was later identified as 20-year-old John Anthony Cornejo, the brother of [REDACTED].

According to Dr. Bleecher, Cornejo was arrested on Sunday morning March 29, 2015, on [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Officers from the California Highway Patrol (CHP) transported Cornejo to Glenn Dyer Jail in Oakland. While in custody in the booking area of the jail, he began behaving strangely. Cornejo showed signs of profuse sweating, he started walking back and forth and then collapsed; it appeared he was having a seizure. Cornejo was treated by jail medical staff members before he was transported by ambulance to the emergency room at Highland Hospital. At the hospital, [REDACTED].

On Monday, March 30, 2015, at 0710 hours, Cornejo was pronounced dead in the ICU. (CEF1691)

Medical Summary:

It was suspected Cornejo may have ingested a controlled substance when he was arrested. While going through the initial jail booking process, he denied ingesting anything. Later in the booking process, while in a holding cell, he began sweating profusely and walking back and forth before collapsing, and having what appeared to be a seizure. Medical aid was rendered at the jail before he was transported to the emergency room at Highland Hospital by code three ambulance. His urine tested positive for methamphetamine. (CEF1691)

Description of the Death/ Injury Scene:

Cornejo was pronounced dead in the ICU at Highland Hospital located at 1411 East 31st Street in Oakland. (CEF1691)

Body Identification:

On Monday, March 30, 2015, about 1416 hours, I (Frazier) scanned the decedent's fingerprints with the Blue Check mobile fingerprint device and received a hit. The decedent was tentatively identified as John Anthony Cornejo with a date of birth of 1/19/1995; his person file number (PFN) was [REDACTED].

I searched the name John Cornejo in the CRIMS database and located booking information. Cornejo's California Identification number was [REDACTED]. I searched the Cal Photo database and located an identification photograph. I used the photograph by comparing it to the likeness of the decedent, and it was a match. Cornejo's California Identification card was located in his property.



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Cornejo also has multiple tattoos covering his body. One unique tattoo on his chest read "[REDACTED]". Other tattoos on his body were as follows: "[REDACTED]" on his left shoulder; [REDACTED]

(CEF1691)

Next of Kin Investigation:

On Monday, March 30, 2015, about 1416 hours, I (Frazier) searched the Accurant database, and located an address in the City of [REDACTED]. I determined it could be Cornejo's current residence, or a relative's home. (CEF1691)

On Tuesday, March 31, 2015, about 1045 hours, Deputy Coroners K. Easling and J. Hovda went to the address listed in the Accurant report for John Cornejo. They knocked on the door, but nobody answered, so they left a business card requesting a call to the Coroner's Bureau.

On Tuesday, March 31, 2015, about 1500 hours, a woman named [REDACTED] called the Coroner's Bureau and identified herself as the mother of John Cornejo. I (Frazier) explained the Coroner's involvement with this case and asked her to describe her son, including any distinguishing marks or tattoos he may have had on his body. She said her son John had several tattoos covering his body, but the most unique tattoo she described was the words [REDACTED] which was situated across his chest.

I asked [REDACTED] if her son had ever been married or had any children. She said John had never been married, which makes [REDACTED] the legal next of kin. At this point in the conversation, [REDACTED] became distraught and handed the phone to her sister [REDACTED]. I continued the conversation with [REDACTED] who provided me with additional information. I asked [REDACTED] if she could work with her sister in selecting a funeral home and making funeral arrangements. (CEF1691)

Other Agency Reports:

Refer to California Highway Patrol (Oakland Office) police report written by CHP Officer C. Bruno (#20978), report number 15-0589.

Refer to Alameda County Sheriff's Office police report written by Deputy K. Beyrodt, report number 15-005355. (CEF1691)

Property and Evidence:

Cornejo's property was documented on Coroner's receipt number 35869, and placed into the temporary property drop-box located at the Coroner's Bureau. (CEF1691)

Coroners Fees:

The Coroner's fees associated with this case are \$321.00; \$254 for body removal, and \$67 for body preparation. (CEF1691)

On Tuesday, March 31, 2015, about 1530 hours, I (Frazier) explained the Coroner's fees associated with this case to [REDACTED] and his aunt, [REDACTED]. (CEF1691)

Other Investigative Details/ Supplemental Information:



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On Sunday, March 29, 2015, about 0435 hours, Cornejo was arrested in the area of San Pablo Avenue and Brush Street in Oakland by CHP Officer Bruno #20978 of the Oakland CHP Office. At the time of arrest, [REDACTED]

Sergeant C. Ensor from Glenn Dyer Jail provided me with the following documents: A mug shot profile, the consolidated arrest report (CAR), an ACSO custody card, a CRIMS report, an inmate movement history report, and a classification report. Copies of these documents were placed inside the case file.

The inmate movement history report shows the following:

On 03/29/15, about 0537 hours, Cornejo was brought into the Glenn Dyer Jail as a "new book" in the booking area of the jail. He was later placed in holding cell "H."

On 03/29/2015, about 0945 hours, he was transported to Alameda Health System-Highland Hospital in Oakland.

On 03/29/2015, about 1500 hours, his in-custody status was changed to "NBK" release, and a notice to appear was issued on citation number SH709817.

Alameda County Sheriff's Office, Glenn Dyer Jail, Incident report number 15-005355 indicates the following:

On 03/29/2015 about 0545 hours, Cornejo was being processed into the booking area of Glenn Dyer Jail when he began displaying signs of someone who might be under the influence of a controlled substance. Cornejo was sweating, laughing and unable to keep still during the booking photo process. He admitted to taking cocaine hours before his arrest. The booking deputy asked Cornejo if he had swallowed anything that could result in a medical emergency, and he replied "I am good to go." Cornejo did not show any immediate signs of being in distress. The booking deputy continued with the booking process.

On 3/29/2015, about 0815 hours, Deputy Fields conducted a walkthrough of ITR and discovered Cornejo on the floor of "H" tank. Deputy Fields notified his Sergeant T. Bock and the Corizon Health Services ITR Nurse. Central Control was notified of the emergency and they called 9-1-1. About 0820 hours EMS was dispatched. Cornejo had saliva and foam coming from his mouth with shallow breathing.

On 3/29/2015 about 0827 hours, Oakland Fire Department paramedics from Engine 18 arrived and rendered life-saving measures.

On 3/29/2015 about 0830 hours, Paramedics Plus paramedics (Rig #2124) arrived and transported Cornejo to Highland Hospital for a possible drug overdose.

On 3/29/2015 about 1400 hours, Cornejo was admitted into the ICU at Highland Hospital when it was determined he ingested methamphetamine. Cornejo was cited and released from custody.

On Monday, March 30, 2015, about 1140 hours, Deputy K. Easling and I (Frazier) arrived at Highland Hospital to complete the removal. We located Cornejo in the hospital morgue. I conducted a limited external examination. Cornejo was face up on a gurney. Medical therapy was present consisting of a C-



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collar, king and suction tubes, IV's, and cardiac monitoring pads. I saw bloody purge coming from his nose which had streamed down and pooled around his eyes, and on the side of his face. He had multiple tattoos covering his body, including on his shoulders, thighs and shins. His hospital-issued identification wristband and toe tag contained the name [REDACTED]. I located his personal property in a hospital patient belongings bag and it appeared the decedent's true name was John Anthony Cornejo. This was the name on his California Identification card, number [REDACTED]. Deputy Easling took several digital photographs and I collected his property. Coroner's receipt number 35869 was issued for the body, property and clothing.

I placed paper bags over Cornejo's hands and secured them with plastic zip ties per protocol. We completed the removal and transported Cornejo's body to the Coroner's Bureau. I took intake photographs and processed him into the morgue. (CEF1691)

Findings:

On Wednesday, May 13, 2015, about 0820 hours, I (Frazier) reviewed this case for the purpose of establishing a manner of death. A full autopsy with toxicology was performed by Coroner's Pathologist Dr. P. Herrmann who determined acute methamphetamine intoxication was the cause of death. The toxicology report revealed methamphetamine and amphetamine were both present in Cornejo's bloodstream. His blood methamphetamine level was 7.7 mg/L; the potentially toxic range for methamphetamine is 0.2 - 5 mg/L. His blood amphetamine level was 0.36 mg/L; the potentially toxic range for amphetamine is 0.2 mg/L.

After reviewing my report, the contents of the case file, and the cause of death provided by Dr. Herrmann, I find this death to be an accident. My finding is based on information I received during my death investigation from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office-Glenn Dyer Detention Facility, Highland Hospital medical records, and the CHP police report, which indicated [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (CEF1691)

Supervisor Review:

On Sunday, May 24, 2015, I (Sergeant P. Graves) reviewed this report and found it to be complete. I concur with the finding and approve this case for closure. A fee hold will remain in place until all fees are paid in full. Once all fees are paid, this report may be disseminated to any requesting party. (PRG#1660)

On Thursday, July 01, 2015, I (Sgt Baron) re-opened this case in order to remove the fee hold that was put in place. I saw, on June 29, 2015, all fees associated with this case were paid in full, therefore the fee hold was removed and the case was reclosed and now available for dissemination. (HB#2017)

Alameda County Sheriff's Office

Coroner's Bureau
2901 Peralta Oaks Court, 2nd Floor, Oakland, CA 94605-5319



Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff

Director of Emergency Services
Coroner - Marshal

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: April 1, 2015
FROM: Paul W. Herrmann, M.D.
TO: Case File 2015-01063
SUBJECT: AUTOPSY PROTOCOL

Autopsy performed upon the body of John Anthony Cornejo at the Coroner's Bureau, 2901 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, California, on April 1, 2015, at 8:45 a.m.

AUTOPSY FINDINGS

- 1) CLINICAL HISTORY OF ACUTE SEIZURE.
- 2) METHAMPHETAMINE FOUND IN HOSPITAL BLOOD.
- 3) ACUTE CONGESTION AND EDEMA OF THE LUNGS.
- 4) CARDIOMEGALY WITH LEFT AND RIGHT VENTRICULAR HYPERTROPHY.
- 5) CONGESTION OF THE SPLEEN.
- 6) EDEMA OF THE KIDNEYS.
- 7) SOFT TISSUE EDEMA AND BILATERAL PLEURAL EFFUSIONS.
- 8) SUPERFICIAL ABRASIONS OF THE SKIN BELOW THE KNEES.
- 9) BLOOD SAMPLE DRAWN IN HOSPITAL:
 - A) METHAMPHETAMINE 7.7 MG/L
 - B) AMPHETAMINE 0.36 MG/L.

CAUSE OF DEATH: ACUTE METHAMPHETAMINE INTOXICATION.

cc: EMS
Investigation's Bureau
District Attorney

Sheriff-Coroner
Alameda County

Body of JOHN ANTHONY CORNEJO

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body is that of a well-developed adult male appearing consistent with the stated age of 20 years, weighing 213 pounds and measuring 72 inches. The hair is black and has been shaved and is now approximately 1/4 inch length. There is a black mustache and goatee. The irides are brown. The conjunctivae show no abnormalities. The teeth are in good condition. There is complete rigidity of the neck, jaw, and extremities. Purple lividity is present on the back.

There is the following evidence of MEDICAL TREATMENT:

1) A Band-Aid covers a needle puncture mark on the low midback over the spine. It is approximately 5 inches above the upper intergluteal fold. A large bandage covers this as well, with the date "03/29/15 1700 hours" written on it in pen.

2) An endotracheal tube is clamped in place at the right corner of the mouth.

3) A nasogastric tube is also extends from the mouth.

4) A plastic collar is present about the neck.

5) Multiple EKG pads are adherent to the anterior torso.

6) A bandaged intracath is present on dorsum of left hand.

7) A bandage covers needle puncture marks in left antecubital fossa.

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Alameda County

Body of JOHN ANTHONY CORNEJO

23 8) An intracath is taped in placed on the anterior aspect
24 of the right wrist.

25 9) A bandage covers several fresh needle puncture marks in
26 the right antecubital fossa.

27 10) Several fresh needle puncture marks in right antecubital
28 fossa. There are no scars in the antecubital areas.

29 11) A Foley catheter is present in the penis.

30 12) A bandaged intracath is present in the right groin. It
31 is also sutured in place.

32 13) A bandage is on the inferior aspect of the right knee
33 covering some blunt trauma.

34 14) A bandaged intracath is present on the left side of the
35 neck.

36 Some bloody fluid has run from the nostrils onto the face
37 bilaterally.

38 There is the following evidence of BLUNT TRAUMA:

39 No blunt trauma is seen on the face or head.

40 None is seen on the neck.

41 The chest and abdomen show no blunt trauma.

42 The left upper extremity shows no trauma except that there
43 is a faint maroon contusion over the proximal interphalangeal
44 joint of the left long finger measuring 1/2 inch in diameter.

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Alameda County

Body of JOHN ANTHONY CORNEJO

45 There is a green-yellow contusion overlying the
46 metacarpophalangeal joints of the left index and long fingers.

47 The right upper extremity shows a large area of maroon
48 contusion just distal to the elbow. A portion of this is purple
49 in color but much of it is maroon. The entire area measures
50 approximately 4 inches in diameter. No other blunt trauma is
51 seen on the right upper extremity and the right hand shows no
52 evidence of blunt trauma.

53 There is no evidence of blunt trauma to the genitalia.

54 There are two areas of abrasion just below the right knee,
55 one measuring 1 inch and the other 3/4 inch in greatest
56 dimensions. These are superficial.

57 Below the left knee there is a contusion measuring 2 x 1
58 inch in greatest dimensions, with a slight abrasion inferiorly
59 and superiorly.

60 There is no evidence of blunt trauma to the back or
61 buttocks.

62 TATTOOS

63 There are many tattoos present on the body.

64 The right and left legs show tattoos extending from the
65 knees to the ankles. Both thighs show tattoos which appear to
66 be skulls with horns.

Body of JOHN ANTHONY CORNEJO

67 There are tattoos on the lateral aspect of the right
68 shoulder with the name "Yolanda" in the center of a heart.

69 There is a tattoo across the upper chest below the neck
70 which looks like the words "Riverside's Finest."

71 There is a tattoo on the lateral aspect of the left upper
72 arm of crossed tools with a name above it and the letters
73 "R.I.P." beneath it.

74 INTERNAL EXAMINATION

75 Y-SHAPED THORACOABDOMINAL AND INTERMASTOIDAL INCISIONS are
76 made.

77 HEAD: There is no evidence of trauma to the scalp. The
78 subcutaneous tissue is edematous. The skull is unremarkable.
79 The meninges show no abnormalities. The external surface of the
80 brain shows slight gyral flattening but the unci are not
81 grooved. The cerebellar tonsils are unremarkable. The brain
82 weighs 1630 grams. On cut section, the brain has a wet
83 appearance but no other abnormality is seen. The vessels of the
84 base of the brain are unremarkable. The base of the skull shows
85 no abnormality.

86 NECK ORGANS: The soft tissues of the neck and the cervical
87 spine are unremarkable. The laryngeal and tracheal cartilages
88 and hyoid bone are intact. The airway is patent. The

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Alameda County

Body of JOHN ANTHONY CORNEJO

89 endotracheal tube is in its proper position. The nasogastric
90 tube is also properly placed. The thyroid gland is of normal
91 size and unremarkable on cut section.

92 CHEST: There is no evidence of trauma to the chest wall
93 but the chest wall is edematous. The ribs are intact. There is
94 approximately 60 cc of clear fluid in each pleural cavity. The
95 lungs fill the remainder of the pleural spaces.

96 LUNGS: The left lung weighs 900 grams. The right lung
97 weighs 950 grams. The pulmonary arteries and bronchi are
98 unremarkable. The pulmonary parenchyma is markedly congested
99 and extremely edematous.

100 HEART: The pericardial sac contains a small amount of
101 clear yellow fluid. The external surface of the heart shows
102 left ventricular prominence. The heart weighs 470 grams. The
103 coronary arteries on cut section show no atherosclerosis. The
104 right coronary artery is dominant. The cardiac chambers and
105 valves are unremarkable. The left ventricular myocardium is
106 thickened measuring 18 mm in thickness, right ventricle 5 mm.
107 There is no evidence of scarring. The foramen ovale is dimpled
108 but shows no opening. The interventricular septum is
109 unremarkable. The descending thoracic and abdominal aorta shows
110 no significant atherosclerosis.

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Alameda County

Body of JOHN ANTHONY CORNEJO

111 ABDOMEN: The abdominal fat is 1 inch at the umbilicus.

112 The organs are in their normal positions.

113 LIVER: The liver weighs 1850 grams. The capsular surface
114 is smooth. The parenchyma is acutely congested. The
115 gallbladder and extrahepatic ducts are unremarkable.

116 SPLEEN: The spleen weighs 80 grams. The capsule is
117 smooth. The parenchyma is congested. Lymphoid follicles are
118 not apparent.

119 PANCREAS: The pancreas is of normal size. It retains a
120 lobular architecture.

121 ADRENAL GLANDS: The adrenals are equal in size. The
122 cortices are thin, bright yellow. The medullae are
123 unremarkable.

124 GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT: The mucosa of the esophagus and
125 stomach shows no abnormalities but there is edema of the gastric
126 wall. The stomach contains approximately 200 cc of bile stained
127 clear fluid. The duodenum and small bowel are opened and no
128 abnormalities are seen. Thin watery fluid is present throughout
129 the small bowel. The large intestine is also completely opened
130 and no abnormalities are seen except for focal areas of mucosal
131 hemorrhage and necrosis in the descending colon probably due to
132 shock. No foreign bodies are found within the gastrointestinal

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Alameda County

Body of JOHN ANTHONY CORNEJO

133 tract.

134 GENITOURINARY TRACT: The kidneys are equal in size
135 weighing 220 grams each. The capsules strip with ease. The
136 cortical surfaces are smooth. The parenchyma is pale and
137 somewhat edematous. The renal vessels, pelves and ureters are
138 in their normal positions. The urinary bladder is empty. The
139 Foley catheter is present.

140 The prostate gland is of normal size and unremarkable on
141 cut section. Testes are palpated in the scrotum. The penis is
142 uncircumcised.

143 The thoracic and lumbar spine are unremarkable.

144

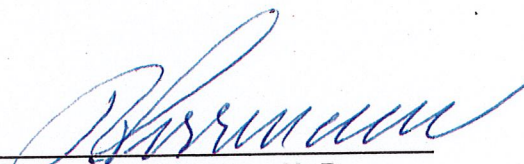
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149 PWH/jkm


Paul W. Herrmann, M.D.

Case Name:

Cornejo,

TOXICOLOGY NUMBER: CVT-15-4320

John A.

Specimen Description:

Hospital samples: 8 ml blood (3 vials) each labeled "Alameda Co Sheriff's
Office-Coroner's Bureau; Cornejo, John; 2015-001063; 04/01/2015; (Hospital labels)
MR# 30059740; 03/29/15; 0946 hrs; Niles, Fourteen; (1 vial) Cornejo, Norman"

Delivered by Tricor

Date 02-Apr-15

Received by Bill Posey

Date 02-Apr-15

Request: Complete Drug Screen

Agency Case # 2015-01063

Requesting Agency

Alameda Co. Coroner's Office
Attn: Acct's Payable
2901 Peralta Oaks Ct., 2nd Floor
Oakland CA 94605

Report To

Alameda Co. Coroner's Office
Attn: Dr. Herrmann
2901 Peralta Oaks Ct., 2nd Floor
Oakland CA 94605

RESULTS

Specimen: Hospital Blood (Lavender Top Vial) Sample

Complete Drug Screen: Methamphetamine detected.

No other common acidic, neutral or basic drugs detected.

No Ethyl Alcohol detected.

d-Methamphetamine = 7.7 mg/L

d-Amphetamine = 0.36 mg/L

Blood Methamphetamine Ranges

Effective Level: (0.01 - 0.05 mg/L)

Potentially Toxic: (0.2 - 5 mg/L)

Blood Amphetamine Ranges

Effective Level: (0.02 - 0.15 mg/L)

Potentially Toxic: (0.2 mg/L)

4/29/15

B. L. Posey

April 21, 2015

B.L. POSEY
S.N. KIMBLE
Directors

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Clovis, California 93611
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